Tourist traffic to India

418. DR. MOHD. HASHIM KIDWAI: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been increase or decrease in the tourist traffic from U.S.A., U.K., West Asian and South East Asian countries duirng the year 1986-87 in the first half yearly of the current financial year;

(b) what are the reasons for the decline if any in the number of tourists from these countries; and

(c) what steps Government are contemplating to increase the flow of tourists from these countries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) A comparative statement showing tourist traffic from U.S.A., U.K., West Asian and South East Asian countries during 1985, 1986 and January-June, 1986 and 1987 is given below:

Country	1985	1986	% Change	1986 (Jan-June)	1987 (Jan-June)	% Change
U.S.A.	95,920	125,364	30.7	51,954	64,186	23.5
U.K.	119,544	160,685	34 4	73,194	74,536	1.8
West Asian Countries	90,820	115,696	27.4	54,666	54,285	0.7
South East Asian Countries	54,663	67,816	24 1	31,505	35,820	13.7

(b) The marginal decline in tourist traffic from West Asian Countries during January—June, 1987 was on account of political and economic disturbances in the region.

(c) Government has taken-up many promotional campaigns and advertisements for increasing the flow of tourists from these countries. These include consumer advertising through television and radio, organisation of promotional seminars, inviting travel writers, photographers, etc., on familiarisation tours and special product advertising.

Telephone Exchanges in U.P.

419. DR. MOHD. HASHIM KIDWAI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the total number and capacity of telephone exchanges in Uttar Pradesh, exchange-wise and district-wise;

(b) total number of telephone connections sanctioned for the period from January, 1986 to October, 1987;

(c) the number of persons on the waiting list, district-wise;

(d) the number of electronic exchanges till June, 1987; and

(e) by when all the telephone exchanges of Uttar Pradesh will be connected with electronic exchanges?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SANTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) Total number of exchanges—1014 and equipped capacity is 258779 as on 31-3-87. District-wise and exchange-wise list will be submitted early.

(b) During January, 1986—September 1987, number of telephone connections given are 18471. Information about the sanctioned telephones shall be submitted early.